

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1260 – SB 1359

March 18, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Redefines “animal cruelty” under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-14-202(b). Requires any tether to be less than 10 feet, be of a weight that allows an animal to reasonably move about freely, and to have swivels on both ends. The animal must have access to shade, food, and water; and the animal cannot be tethered outside in harsh weather conditions. Creates a Class C misdemeanor for animal cruelty and a Class B misdemeanor for second or subsequent violations of animal cruelty.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- There will not be a sufficient number of misdemeanor prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- A small increase in the cases in the court system will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes, and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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